

ABSTRACT

The current invention relates generally to methods for rapid fractionation of WBCs from whole blood using a proprietary leukocyte depletion filter, which concentrates and partially purifies the WBCs, and for stabilizing the RNA patterns in the
5 fractionated cells. The invention further relates to methods of extracting the RNA from the fractionated cells and using such nucleic acids in any of a variety of molecular biology procedures including, for example, expression profiling.